(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. HIV infected persons remain asymptomatic for 5-7 years during which they spread infection. Besides, there is no cure for HIV/AIDS, which can eliminate the infection from the body of infected persons.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir.

(f) Government of India has launched a comprehensive National AIDS Control Programme, incorporating the suggestions made in the UNAIDS/WHO report, with the following key components.

Reducing the spread of HIV in groups at high risk by identification of target populations and providing peer counselling, condom promotion, treatment of sexually transmitted infections etc.

Preventive intervention for the general population by Information, Education and Communication (IEC) and awareness campaign, provision of voluntary testing and counselling, safe blood transfusion services and prevention of occupational exposure.

Providing financial assistance for opportunistic infections, home and community based care to people living with HIV/AIDS. Strengthening effectiveness and technical, managerial, financial sustainability at National, State and Municipal levels.

Promoting collaboration amongst public, private and voluntary sector.

Functioning of National Aids Control Organisation

2228. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National AIDS Control Organisation has provided any financial aid to several agencies for AIDS control and awareness programme during the last three years and the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the World Bank has shown unhappiness over the

poor performance of AIDS Control programme and alarming increase of HIV positive cases in India; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) Yes, Sir. National AIDS Control Organisation has directly financed a number of NGOs. In addition, a number of targeted interventions have also been taken up by the State/UT AIDS Control Societies.

(b) Two statements indicating funds sanctioned by NACO directly and those sanctioned through State/UT AIDS Control Societies are given in the Annexure. *[See Appendix 190, Annexure 34)*

(c) No, Sir.

(d) In view of reply to (c) above, question does not arise.

Medical Facilities for Cancer Patients

2229. SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of cancer patients in the country; how many deaths occurred in the last three years, year-wise;

(b) what is the average cost of treatment of cancer; and

(c) what Government are doing to provide facilities for treatment and make it affordable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) The information about occurence of cancer and deaths is not being routinely collected in India. The information about incidence rates of cancer is available through population based cancer registries functioning under the National Cancer Registry Programme of ICMR. Based on the data from these registries, it has been estimated that in the year 2001, an estimated 8.06 lakhs persons are expected to develop cancer in the country. Also based on the data from Bombay Population Based Cancer Registry, an estimated 3.9 lakh persons died in India due to cancer in 1996.